

FACTS *from the National Wildlife Refuge System*

A Sampling of Events for "NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE WEEK" October 8-14, 1995

At least 150 events are planned around the country. Here is a sampling of highlights:

October 6-7: Bayou Sauvage National Wildlife Refuge, New Orleans, Louisiana

Cajun band, canoe trips, dog rescue training team, rocket netting, many exhibits, demonstrations, activities, dedication of a new pavilion and nature trail.

October 7: Kirwin National Wildlife Refuge, Kansas

National Wildlife Refuge System displays in the Kirwin library, community building, senior center, and Phillipsburg library; 5K run and 1K run/walk at the refuge in conjunction with Kirwin's "Old Settler's Day."

October 8: Tule Lake, California

Dedication of Discovery Marsh, a fully interpreted demonstration wetland with interpretive signs, trails, disabled accessible observation blinds. Partners include the McConnel Foundation, Federal Lands Highway Funding, others. Tremendous concentrations of waterfowl, bald eagles, hawks.

October 8-13: Wichita Mountains National Wildlife Refuge, Indianahoma, Oklahoma

Open house, tours, demonstrations, hiking, birdwatching, fishing, other special events at this oldest continuously managed national wildlife refuge; also among the most visited with 1.5 million visitors per year. Contains herds of American bison, elk, deer, and Texas longhorns.

October 8-14: National Wildlife Refuge Week at ZooAtlanta

Special events are planned to highlight the week and inform zoo visitors about the refuge system.

October 8-14: Alaska National Wildlife Refuges

Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge. Schools will track migrating birds via computer and share sightings as the birds move.



AMERICA'S NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES...
where wildlife comes naturally!

Izembek National Wildlife Refuge. Evening open house, morning brant viewing, developing a "Brant Watch" tracking program.

Open houses, have art contests, school programs, and slide presentations are planned for other Alaska refuges.

October 8-14: Hawaii National Wildlife Refuges

Open houses, slide shows, tours, beach clean-up, and other events.

October 9: Tensas River National Wildlife Refuge, Tallulah, Louisiana

Dawn and dusk hayrides through normally closed areas of the refuge and an evening canoe trip on the Tensas River.

October 10: Tijuana Slough and Proposed San Diego Refuge, California

Briefings on the proposed refuge, tours of the proposed Otay-Sweetwater unit of the San Diego refuge, and late-afternoon dedication of new viewing deck and interpretive panels on Tijuana Slough NWR.

October 10, 14: Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge, Saginaw, Michigan

A "Night Prowl" October 10 to teach visitors about nocturnal animal sounds and signs; October 14, a guided bicycle tour of closed areas to watch thousands of waterfowl, bald eagles, raptors, and deer.

October 10-14: San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge, San Francisco, California

The week-long celebration at San Francisco Bay refuge will feature night hikes; tours; slide shows; nature programs; evening campfire sing-along with EARTH TUNES; Shark Day with "S.J. Sharkie," mascot of the San Jose Sharks; Refuge Rhapsody with the BANANA SLUG string band; hip-hop artists; native plant symposium; others.

October 11: Audubon National Wildlife Refuge, Coleharbor, North Dakota

Workshop to teach children how to build bird feeders and all about the birds that will use them.

October 13: Refuge Week at Rio Grande Zoo, Albuquerque, New Mexico

Exhibits, presentations, a concert, and other special events to highlight the week and inform zoo visitors about the refuge system, with the Mayor and other dignitaries.

October 13-14: Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge, Round Oak, Georgia

Annual deer hunt for wheelchair-bound hunters.

October 14: Rocky Mountain Arsenal, Denver, Colorado

Visitor center, bus tours, hiking trails, wildlife bike tour.

October 14: Stone Lakes and Antioch Dunes National Wildlife Refuges, California

A morning "Walk on the Wild Side" at Stone Lakes and dedication of a wildlife area with many local partners followed by an open house and tours. Afternoon at Antioch Dunes National Wildlife Refuge with Regional Director Michael Spear, local reporters, and refuge supporters. Topics include habitat restoration for endangered species and the refuge system's contributions to endangered species recovery.

October 14: Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge, Mound City, Missouri

Open house, environmental education programs, birdwatching at this refuge, which the National Audubon Society calls one of the "best bets for photography on a national wildlife refuge." Large concentrations of blue and snow geese and ducks, followed later this fall by up to 200 bald eagles.

Open Houses, New Visitor Centers, Headquarters, Volunteer Recognitions

Rice Lake National Wildlife Refuge, McGregor, Minnesota; Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge, Oak Harbor, Ohio; Horicon National Wildlife Refuge, Mayville, Wisconsin; Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge, Middle River, Minnesota. All have large concentrations of raptors, waterfowl (200,000-700,000).

October 14: Merritt Island National Wildlife Refuge, Titusville, Florida

"Discovery" open house co-hosted by NASA, featuring the theme "Discover National Wildlife Refuges." Demonstrations, exhibits, environmental education talks, interactive computer wildlife games, a Florida panther, and other activities.

October 14: Patuxent National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center, Laurel, Maryland

Governor's Proclamation, a live "Big Bird" (a sandhill crane) and costumed caretaker, multiple activities, hands-on endangered species displays, demonstrations, exhibits, live animals, tram tours, free fishing at Cash Lake for licensed anglers.